

DOI                      LATE MAY 1974

ACQ

**SOURCE**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. AS OF MAY 1974, TWO AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR (POWS) WERE BEING HELD BY THE KHMER COMMUNISTS (KC) IN A DETENTION CAMP NEAR THE VILLAGE OF MEMUT (XU 3026) IN KOMPONG CHAM PROVINCE OF SOUTHEASTERN CAMBODIA. THE DETENTION CAMP WAS LOCATED IN THE MIDDLE OF A COFFEE PLANTATION ABOUT 4 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF KAMPOAN VILLAGE (XU 210180) AND ABOUT 2.5 KILOMETERS EAST OF LOU VILLAGE (XU 1622).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THE TWO AMERICAN POWS HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY THE VIET CONG (VC) IN SOUTH VIETNAM. THE TWO MEN WERE REFERRED TO AS B U L L E R (PHONETIC), A BLACK AMERICAN, AND C H A I G A R (PHONETIC), A WHITE AMERICAN WITH RED HAIR.

2. THE POW KNOWN AS BULLER WAS IN HIS EARLY THIRTIES, HAD A LARGE BUILD, BUT WAS THIN AND HAD CURLY HAIR, THICK LIPS AND A WELL TRIMMED MOUSTACHE AND BEARD. HE WAS MARRIED TO A KHMER WOMAN, AND THEY HAD ONE SON FROM FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS OF AGE. THE SON HAD A DARK COMPLEXION AND SLIGHTLY CURLY HAIR. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NEVER SPOKE WITH BULLER, BUT BULLER'S WIFE INFORMED [REDACTED] THAT SHE, HER HUSBAND AND HER SON WERE CAPTURED BY THE VC IN SOUTH VIETNAM MORE THAN A YEAR AGO. THEY WERE MISTREATED BY THE VC AND ASKED TO LIVE WITH THE KC. THEIR REQUEST WAS GRANTED. BULLER WAS A SOLDIER IN THE U.S. ARMY IN SOUTH VIETNAM. HE SPOKE FAIRLY FLUENT KHMER.

3. THE POW KNOWN AS CHAIGAR WAS OVER SIX FEET TALL, SLENDER, AND PROBABLY IN HIS EARLY TWENTIES. HE HAD SOFT, SHORT RED HAIR, AN ERECT POSTURE, A SHARP NOSE, AND MANY MOLES OR FRECKLES ON HIS FACE. HE SPOKE VIETNAMESE.

4. BULLER WAS ASSIGNED TO WORK AS A FARMER AT THE CAMP. IN

[REDACTED]

MAY 1974, HE WAS TRANSFERRED ALONG WITH A KC MILITARY TEAM TO SANGKUM MEANCHEY VILLAGE (XU 2406) TO GROW VEGETABLES THERE. CHAIGAR WORKED AS A TRUCK MECHANIC AT THE COFFEE PLANTATION. BOTH POWS WERE IN APPARENT GOOD HEALTH AND HAD BEEN AT THE DETENTION CENTER FOR MORE THAN FIVE MONTHS.

5. THE MEMUT DETENTION CAMP CONSISTED OF TEN BAMBOO AND THATCH BUILDINGS EACH MEASURING APPROXIMATELY 10 X 3.5 METERS. THE CAMP HAD NO FENCE BUT WAS GUARDED BY ABOUT 30 MEN ARMED WITH AK-47, SKS AND M-16 RIFLES. THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 30 FANK AND 200 CIVILIAN PRISONERS AT THE CENTER. THE FANK PRISONERS WERE FROM THE 58TH AND 64TH BRIGADES AND HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN THE AREA OF NATIONAL ROUTE ONE. THE CIVILIAN PRISONERS WERE SERVING ONE TO TWO YEAR TERMS FOR BREAKING KC REGULATIONS. ALL THE PRISONERS WERE LOCKED UP AT NIGHT IN THE BUILDINGS OF THE CAMP AND INDIVIDUALLY CHAINED.


6. THE TWO AMERICAN POWS WERE SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF THE PRISONERS. BULLER LIVED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF A TWO-STORY HOUSE LOCATED IN MEANCHEY VILLAGE ABOUT 2.5 KILOMETERS WEST OF THE MEMUT MARKET AND APPROXIMATELY 200 METERS EAST OF THE CROSS-ROAD ON NATIONAL ROUTE SEVEN. HE AND HIS FAMILY LIVED WITH 20

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

GUARDS. FOUR KC OFFICIALS LIVED ABOVE THEM ON THE SECOND FLOOR. THE LAND BULLER WORKED WAS ABOUT 15 METERS BEHIND HIS HOUSE. CHAIGAR SLEPT ALONE IN A SHED NEAR THE GARAGE WHERE HE WORKED. THE GARAGE AND SHED WERE LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 100 METERS EAST OF THE DETENTION CAMP. TEN ARMED GUARDS LIVED IN TWO SHEDS NEXT TO CHAIGAR'S.

7. THE AMERICAN POWS WORE FATIGUE AND CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORMS, WITH NO INSIGNIA, BLACK BOOTS AND NO HATS. EACH HAD ABOUT TWO OR THREE SUCH UNIFORMS.

8.  COMMENT: THE JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) EVALUATES THIS REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

"A. THE INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED AS 'BULLER' IN THIS REPORT PROBABLY RELATES TO MCKINLEY NOLAN, A NEGRO CARRIED IN DESERTER STATUS. NOLAN HAD REPORTEDLY ESCAPED FROM THE REFERENCED CAMP (XU 437025), WITH HIS KHMER WIFE AND FIVE-YEAR OLD SON IN OCTOBER 1973. AN ARVN ESCAPEE REPORTED SEEING NOLAN AND HIS WIFE IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER 1973 IN THE VICINITY OF XU 437025. THIS IS THE FIRST REPORT ON NOLAN SINCE THE OCTOBER 1973 REPORT OF HIS ESCAPE.

[REDACTED]

"B. A CORRELATION COULD NOT BE MADE TO THE INDIVIDUAL REFERRED TO AS 'CHAIGAR'. BASED ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF DETENTION AS RELATED IN THE REPORT, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL IS ALSO A COLLABORATOR. IF THIS IS THE CASE, JCRC CAN NOT PROVIDE A CORRELATION DUE TO THE FACT THAT THIS OFFICE DOES NOT MAINTAIN AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN, NOR DOSSIERS ON, DESERTERS/COLLABORATORS.")

9. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY AT PHNOM PENH (PRINCIPAL OFFICERS ONLY). SENT TO: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] CINCPAC (FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD ONLY)  
USSAG ANI [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]